Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims below is intended to replace all prior listings of the claims in the present application.

1. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a protein which reduces fruit size and/or cell division in plants, wherein the nucleic acid molecule either: 1) has a nucleotide sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 1[[;]] or 2) encodes a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 2. ~~;or 3) hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 1 under stringent conditions characterized by a hybridization buffer comprising 0.9M sodium citrate buffer at a temperature of 45°C.~~

2. (currently amended) The ~~An~~ isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is a plant nucleic acid molecule.

Claims 3-4 (canceled)

5. (currently amended) The ~~An~~ isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule has a nucleotide sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 1.

6. (currently amended) The ~~An~~ isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule encodes a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 2.

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule, wherein the nucleic acid molecule encodes a protein which increases fruit size and/or cell division in plants, and the nucleic acid molecule either: 1) has a nucleotide sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 3[[;]] or 2) encodes a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 4. ~~; or 3) hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 3 under stringent conditions characterized by a hybridization buffer comprising 0.9M sodium citrate buffer at a temperature of 45°C.~~

9. (currently amended) The ~~An~~ isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8, wherein the nucleic acid molecule has a nucleotide sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 3.

10. (currently amended) The ~~An~~ isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8, wherein the nucleic acid molecule encodes a protein having the ~~an~~ amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID. No. 4.

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) An expression vector comprising a transcriptional and translational regulatory DNA molecule operably linked to the ~~a~~ nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.

13. (currently amended) The ~~An~~ expression vector according to claim 12, wherein the nucleic acid ~~DNA~~ molecule is in proper sense orientation and correct reading frame.

14. (currently amended) A host cell transduced with the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.

15. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ host cell according to claim 14, wherein the cell is selected from the ~~a~~ group consisting of a bacterial cell, a yeast cell, and a plant cell.

16. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ host cell according to claim 15, wherein the cell is a plant cell selected from the ~~a~~ group consisting of alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprout, beet, parsnip, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

17. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ host cell according to claim 15, wherein the cell is a plant cell selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

Claims 18-21 (canceled)

22. (original) A transgenic plant transformed with the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.

23. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ transgenic plant according to claim 22, wherein the plant is selected from the ~~a~~ group consisting of alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprout, beet, parsnip, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

24. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ transgenic plant according to claim 22, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

Claims 25-28 (canceled)

29. (original) A transgenic plant seed transformed with the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.

30. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ transgenic plant seed according to claim 29, wherein the plant is selected from the ~~a~~ group consisting of alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprout, beet, parsnip, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

31. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ transgenic plant seed according to claim 29, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

Claims 32-35 (canceled)

36. (currently amended) A method of decreasing fruit size in plants comprising:

transforming a plant with the ~~a~~ nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 under conditions effective to decrease fruit size in the plant.

37. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 36, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprout, beet, parsnip, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

38. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 36, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

Claims 39-42 (canceled)

43. (currently amended) A method of decreasing cell division in plants comprising:

transforming a plant with the ~~a~~ nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 under conditions effective to decrease cell division in the plant.

44. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 43, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprout, beet, parsnip, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

45. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 43, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

Claims 46-55 (canceled)

56. (previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is a plant nucleic acid molecule.

57. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising a transcriptional and translational regulatory DNA molecule operably linked to a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8.

58. (currently amended) The ~~An~~ expression vector according to claim 57, wherein the nucleic acid ~~DNA~~ molecule is in proper sense orientation and correct reading frame.

59. (currently amended) A host cell transduced with the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8.

60. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ host cell according to claim 59, wherein the cell is selected from the ~~a~~ group consisting of a bacterial cell, a yeast cell, and a plant cell.

61. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ host cell according to claim 60, wherein the cell is a plant cell selected from the ~~a~~ group consisting of alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprout, beet, parsnip, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

62. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ host cell according to claim 60, wherein the cell is a plant cell selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

63. (previously presented) A transgenic plant transformed with the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8.

64. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ transgenic plant according to claim 63, wherein the plant is selected from the ~~a~~ group consisting of alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprout, beet, parsnip, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

65. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ transgenic plant according to claim 63, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

66. (previously presented) A transgenic plant seed transformed with the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8.

67. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ transgenic plant seed according to claim 66, wherein the plant is selected from the ~~a~~ group consisting of alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprout, beet, parsnip, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

68. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ transgenic plant seed according to claim 66, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

69. (currently amended) A method of increasing fruit size in plants comprising:

transforming the ~~a~~ plant with the ~~a~~ nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8 under conditions effective to increase fruit size in the plant.

70. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 69, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprout, beet, parsnip, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

71. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 69, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.

72. (currently amended) A method of increasing cell division in plants comprising:

transforming the ~~a~~ plant with the ~~a~~ nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8 under conditions effective to increase cell division in the plant.

73. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 72, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of alfalfa, rice, wheat, barley, rye, cotton, sunflower, peanut, corn, potato, sweet potato, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, endive, cabbage, brussel sprout, beet, parsnip, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, carrot, squash, pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber, apple, pear, melon, citrus, strawberry, grape, raspberry, pineapple, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.

74. (currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 72, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Saintpaulia*, petunia, pelargonium, poinsettia, chrysanthemum, carnation, and zinnia.